



# The Hongkong Telegraph

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## PEKING'S NEW PEACE OFFER Cease-Fire Can Be Agreed At First Meeting Of Seven Powers

### COMMENT

Broad hints, that Japanese political leaders confidently believe that they are in a position to drive a hard bargain with the United States on the terms of a peace treaty should, again, counsel the Americans to make haste slowly. Complications are plentiful and nothing would provide a greater source of friction than separate treaties with Japan.

Backing American efforts normally, the Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth agreed that it is necessary to conclude an early peace treaty with Japan in order to eliminate an "ugly situation" in the Far East. But they also hold that all nations formerly at war with Japan should participate in the peace discussions. They do agree with the American Government that no nation should be permitted individually to veto the conclusion of such a general peace, and that discussions should therefore proceed even if some of the nations concerned refuse to take part. But while the Commonwealth agrees with U.S. in principle, what they have in mind is a general peace conference including not only Soviet Russia but also Communist China.

An exchange of notes between Washington and Moscow has tended to show that the Soviets will agree only to a treaty which, like the Balkan treaties, surrenders Japan to Communist conquest. As regards Communist China, the Commonwealth statesmen, who are still more or less evenly split on recognition of the Peking regime, envisage limited recognition for the purpose of the conference.

The United States is definitely opposed, arguing that as long as Communist China continues its present policy it is out of the question that the United States would accord to it even limited recognition or sit down with it in a Japanese peace conference.

In these circumstances the United States has been considering a procedure which would permit each belligerent nation to conclude its own separate peace treaty with Japan. But the result would be confusion worse confounded.

## U.N. Assembly Adjourns Against U.S. Disapproval

Lake Success, Jan. 22.

The Chinese Communist Government today laid before the United Nations Political Committee new terms for a settlement of the Korean and other Far East issues. They were presented by the Indian delegation.

Sir Benegal Narsing Rau, chief Indian delegate, announced to the Committee that he had received, through the Indian Ambassador in Peking, a new offer from the Chinese Communist Government.

### U.S. - FRENCH "SPLIT" REFUTED

New York, Jan. 22.

The chief French delegate to the United Nations returned from a five-day Paris visit today and denied vigorously that there was any "split" between France and the United States over the United States' resolution to condemn Communist China as an aggressor.

The delegate, M. Jean Chauvel, told newsmen at New York International Airport, however, that France was "not prepared" to take any position yet on the idea of applying sanctions against Peking. He said the American resolution did not refer specifically to any "sanction" and France would make up its mind on this subject if and when it was raised.

"We decidedly and strenuously oppose any move to bomb China at present," he added. "It would not do any good. It would be a completely ineffective action. We believe that unless the military situation changes the United Nations forces will be able to stay in Korea without having to resort to bombing Chinese territory. We still believe in settling this matter by negotiation if it is at all possible."

M. Chauvel said he brought no new proposals from Paris and he declined to comment on the Soviet note of Saturday accusing France of violating the Franco-Soviet friendship pact. —United Press.

### Dublin Dock Politics

Dublin, Jan. 22.

Dublin dock workers refused to handle 300 tons of fruit which arrived from Amsterdam today when they heard of the arrival of Dutch planes in Londonderry.

They said that they were acting on instructions of the Irish Seamen and Portworkers Union. The Anti-Partition Association picketed the Netherlands Legation and the British Embassy here today.

Eire Government Ministers have protested that the decision to train Dutch airmen in Northern Ireland is a violation of Eire's sovereignty. —Reuter.

The main points of the offer were:

(1) If the principle that all foreign troops should be withdrawn from Korea has been accepted and is being put into practice, the Chinese People's Republic will assume the responsibility of advising the Chinese volunteers to return to China.

(2) Regarding the conclusion of the war and the political settlement of the Korean problem the Chinese People's Republic thinks it possible to proceed in two steps.

(a) Cease-fire for a limited time can be agreed upon at the first meeting of the seven-nation conference and put into effect so that negotiations can proceed further.

(b) In order that the war in Korea may be concluded completely and the peace of Asia may be assured, all the conditions for the conclusion of the war must be discussed in connection with the political problems in order to reach agreement upon the following:

(1) Steps and measures for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea.

(2) The proposals to the Korean people on the steps and measures to effect the settlement of internal problems should be settled by the Korean people themselves.

#### FORMOSA DEMAND

(3) There must be a withdrawal of American forces from Taiwan (Formosa) and the Straits of Formosa in accordance with the Cairo and Potsdam Declarations.

The definite affirmation of the legitimate status of the Chinese People's Republic in the United Nations must be ensured.

(4) Other Far Eastern problems.

Sir Benegal said that the 12 Asian nations had met today to consider the problem in the light of the new communication from Peking.

#### MORE TIME TO STUDY

Some of these delegations would need more time to study the Peking reply and to obtain new instructions.

The delegates of Ecuador and Venezuela said that they had come prepared to support the American resolution condemning China as an aggressor but the statement by the Indian delegation would oblige them to consult their governments.

Mr Alexis Kyrrou (Greece) reserved his right to consider the new Peking reply more closely, but at first sight he thought it indicated no change in the Chinese attitude. —Reuter.

#### NEW RESOLUTION

New York, Jan. 22.

Twelve Arab and Asian countries, sponsoring a proposal

for a cease-fire in Korea, met today three hours before the United Nations Political Committee was to resume its sitting.

The Asian-Arab conference, meanwhile, has put the final touch to its revised resolution of December 12. This empowered the General Assembly President, Mr Nasrollah Entezam, to call into being a committee of seven nations, including the Big Powers, to take up all controversial issues in the Far East as soon as there was "a lull in the fighting." —Reuter.

#### U.S. ATTITUDE

Peking's demand for a guarantee of United Nations admission and for withdrawal of American forces from Formosa prompted the United States to denounce the offer as a "transparent effort to divide the free world."

Sir Benegal suggested a 48-hour postponement of the debate to give members time to study the surprise Peking offer. Despite vigorous American opposition, in which the U.S. delegate Mr Warren Austin cried "Postpone, delay, procrastinate," the Committee agreed. (Continued on Page 8 Col. 2)

### U.S. POLICY NOT HELPFUL SAYS ALI KHAN

Karachi, Jan. 22.

The Prime Minister, Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, told a press conference today that the United States resolution to brand Peking an aggressor would "not help any further efforts to bring peace to this part of the world."

He said that, as yet, Pakistan had not decided its position on the resolution, but he added, "Before final action is taken, efforts should be made toward rapprochement."

Advised of the Indian Prime Minister's reported statement that India did not reject the Kashmir proposals at the Commonwealth conference, Mr Ali Khan said, "If he didn't say no I should be very happy if he accepted it now." —United Press.

### Note Likely To Be Ignored

Paris, Jan. 22.

Informed quarters said today that France probably will not answer the latest Soviet note accusing France, Britain and the United States of "creating a serious threat to peace."

A Foreign Office spokesman said the latest Soviet protest "note merely repeated the same old argument we already have refuted time and time again." —United Press.

### VOLCANO TERROR IN PAPUA

Port Moresby, Jan. 22.

Terrified natives were fleeing tonight from belching lava and clouds of gas-charged ashes which have claimed 22 lives since Mount Lamington volcano erupted five days ago with an explosion "like an atom bomb."

An urgent message for blood serum was answered today by the Brisbane branch of the Red Cross and the first lot will leave Brisbane by plane tonight.

Early today pilots flew over the Lamington area and reported hundreds of people crawling from the vicinity on their hands and knees.

They were bewildered by the "night in daytime" atmosphere created by a huge ash cloud and were exhausted or keeping close to the ground to escape dangerous gases.

One Australian pilot reported that the ash cloud covered 100 square miles and reached upward for 40,000 feet.

A pilot who saw the final burst from the crater, said, "I have never seen anything travel so quickly. In five minutes the mushroom-shaped monster had risen to 15,000 metres. It had a base and diameter similar to newsreel pictures of the atom bomb blast. Although I dived away at 350 kilometres an hour it seemed to be catching up with us."

The pilot added that within an hour two towns 48 miles away were completely obscured and in midnight darkness. —Reuter.

### Surprise Menon Call At No. 10

London, Jan. 22.

Indian High Commissioner Krishna Menon paid a surprise call on Prime Minister Clement Attlee on Monday afternoon shortly before the Cabinet meeting.

Mr Menon, just back from a Paris meeting with his Premier, Mr Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, arrived at No. 10 Downing Street with a worried look on his face. He remained until a few minutes before the Cabinet convened.

(In Washington, radio commentator Drew Pearson said on Sunday night that the Indian Ambassador in Moscow had told Mr Nehru Russia was preparing to launch an all-out war in 90 days.) —United Press.



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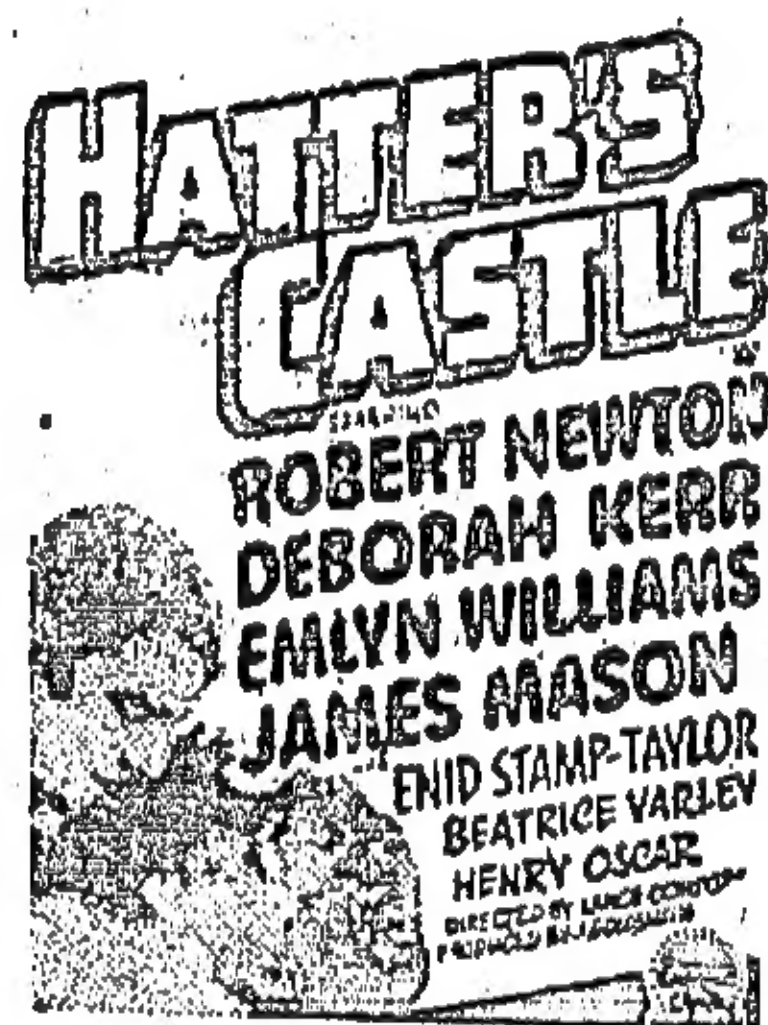
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ORDERS BOOKED



Hongkong Girl Guides recently raised money to endow a cot in the Children's Ward at the Nethersole Hospital. Here some of the Guides are seen with one of the youthful occupants of the Ward. On left is Miss Wilson, Girl Guide trainer from England.—Staff Photographer.

CHINESE COMMUNISTS  
SLOW TO FOLLOW UP  
WITHDRAWALS IN KOREA

Tokyo, Jan. 22.

General Matthew Ridgway, the Eighth Army Commander, today conferred with General Clark Ruffner, the Commander of the United States 2nd Division, on his tour of the central front and expressed optimism of the Korean situation.

He had landed at Wonju airstrip earlier in the day, where he conferred with troops' commanders. He also visited French troops.

The Eighth Army Headquarters lifted the ban on news to give the information about the United Nations forces' patrol advances today.

United Nations patrols went into Ichon, Osan and Kumyang-jangni and "returned safely." General MacArthur's forces stormed a hill near Wonju from which they were driven two days ago after a stubborn battle. Wonju airstrip was recaptured after the British troops had paved the way by scattering a reinforced Communist force.

There was no indication that today's United Nations thrusts were anything more than a reconnaissance in strength to inflict as much damage as

possible on the Communists to throw them off-balance as they painstakingly prepared for a new move south.

Since the last major withdrawal of the United Nations force—from Wonju salient—to shorten and strengthen the Allied line, General Ridgway had been throwing bigger and bigger punches at the seemingly hesitant Communists.

Observers stated that though some Chinese Communist divisions from the 3rd and 4th Field Armies were reported on their way back to Manchuria, the Communists were still building up forces—slowly carefully because of air strikes—in the hilly front line above the 37th Parallel.

## STAYING OUT OF TOWNS

The Communists were carefully staying out of towns to avoid becoming easy targets to the unopposed Allied air strength.

United Nations troops had also been withdrawing from outposts at night-fall to avoid Communist ambushes or road-blocks in the rear.

Observers stated that the Chinese Communist slowness in following up the United Nations withdrawal was typical of the civil war in China when the Communists would strike a heavy blow to send the Nationalists reeling back, then often waited months before moving on through little opposition ahead.

Twelve miles north of Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, Fifth Air Force Mustangs shot down a Yak fighter and probably destroyed another in a sharp air action.

Four Yaks attacked the Mustangs when they were bombing a bridge but a top-cover flight of Mustangs peeled off and screamed down onto the attacking Communist fighters. Mustangs also smashed at Seoul today and destroyed warehouses and barracks. Jets claimed the destruction of a tank north of Seoul.—Reuter.

New Uses For  
Lignite

Washington, Jan. 22.

New uses for lignite, a fuel that for centuries has been known as one of the poorer members of the coal family, have been discovered in America.

The United States Bureau of Mines is converting raw lignite into multi-purpose industrial gas which can be used for making synthetic petrol, alcohol, ammonia and dyes.—Reuter.

Africans  
Want Ban On  
ImmigrantsLusaka, Northern Rhodesia,  
Jan. 22.

The Northern Rhodesia African Congress—the biggest and most influential African political organisation in Northern Rhodesia—has asked the Government to ban the immigration of Afrikaans-speaking South Africans into the territory.

The General Secretary of the Congress said that more and more white people were coming into Northern Rhodesia from South Africa.

"Most of these people believe in the idea of two races, black and white, going along separate roads," he added. That sort of thinking was injurious to everybody "and we want none of it."

The Congress said that Africans had no objection to British immigrants because they found that they believed that the two races could live together in harmony.—Reuter.

## TOKYO COLD

Tokyo, Jan. 22.

The lowest temperature reading of the winter—22.3 degrees Fahrenheit—was registered in Tokyo today.—Reuter.



# CRUSHING AVALANCHES

Deathroll Steadily Mounting In The Alps  
Weary Rescue Teams Try  
To Free The Buried

London, Jan. 22.

Switzerland's Avalanche Bureau warned tonight that new massive falls of ice and snow might follow the "white death" which in three days had taken more than 127 known lives and entombed uncounted others in the Swiss, Austrian and Italian Alps.

Austria and Switzerland each put its death roll above 60 so far and Italy seven.

Reuter reports from all three countries told of weary rescue teams toiling to free people buried in lonely villages and farmsteads cut off when sudden thaw sent millions of tons of snow rolling down the mountains.

Swiss weather experts said that the danger of avalanches had diminished a little but continued to be very great. The regions most menaced were those which as yet had escaped disaster, it added.

All over the Alpine regions, blocked railways and roads and tangled communication wires isolated whole communities and the only news getting through was over the radio transmitters of rescue teams plunging upward through the snow.

Railway traffic between Switzerland and Italy was resumed today, but traffic on all main lines from Vienna to the West was stopped or delayed.

The Arlberg route of the great international expresses was completely blocked.

A farm, with all its occupants and animals, was buried near Schwaz, in the Austrian Tyrol. None had yet been rescued.

An avalanche from the Schwendberg Mountain in the Zillertal swept away three houses and their occupants. Four dead were recovered but the others were still unaccounted for.

A house with four occupants was swept away and buried in the Brettstein district of Styria.

## THAW MENACE

The danger of fresh falls forced rescuers to abandon a bid to save two children and two adults near Mallnitz, Carinthia, where farm buildings were carried away. They had earlier dug out an old woman alive and found the farmer dead.

The latest reports from the Tyrol said that a thaw had set in, increasing the danger of avalanches.

Working continuously for 35

hours, a gang of 550 men last night cleared the St Gothard Line from masses of snow, rock and uprooted trees that had blocked it for two days.

The Brenner Pass railway track, the main route to Italy, had been cleared earlier, but the great motor road through the pass still lay under a deep layer of snow.

## AREAS CUT OFF

A new avalanche today blocked another 600 yards of the motor road through the Brenner Pass and the authorities estimated that it would take four days to clear it.

The international railway line through the Brenner and services through the Simplon and St Gothard tunnels also resumed today.

A second avalanche hit a railway workers' dormitory in Brenner village, burying the building to the first floor.

Places like Davos, Arosa, Upper and Lower Engadine, and the valleys of Muenster, Peschiavo, Vals and Tavloch were still cut off. Endermatt yesterday received its first post for days when four postal bags were dropped by air.

A rescue column of ski teachers, guides and Alpine fortification troops left Andermatt today for the Oberalps, where two people were entombed in the ruins of the Oberalp Hotel.

The hotel had a special refuge against avalanches in the cellar and it was hoped that the couple might be sheltering there. The known dead in the

Andermatt region totalled 17.

Swiss troops today began shooting down potential avalanches around the village of Vals in the Grisons Oberland with mortar fire, after weekend falls there had killed nine people.

The troops radioed that 10 people were still entombed, under snow which engulfed two-thirds of the village. Twelve persons had been dug out alive.

## FRESH BLIZZARDS

Avalanches are being artificially brought down to protect rescue columns trying to move in on skis with supplies for the stricken village.

The Vienna police reported over 60 dead in the avalanches, but every hour new reports of incidents trickled in to Vienna from isolated districts, some without communications except by foot messengers coming in at the risk of their lives.

At least 30 large communities in the Tyrol, Salzburg and Upper Styria Provinces, with a total population of 45,000, were entirely cut off.

Fresh blizzards, piling up snow to 20 feet in some parts of the Tyrol, faced rescue parties with new dangers and worsened the transport dislocation.

In Southern Austria, a passenger train collided with a goods train 50 miles northwest of Graz when snow blocked out the signals.

A Bavarian farmer and his wife were in hospital at Oberstdorf, Bavaria, today with serious injuries after an avalanche struck their farm. The couple were sleeping when the impact of the avalanche threw them into the open.—Reuter.

## DEATHROLL MOUNTS

Geneva, Jan. 22.

More than 169 deaths from Alpine avalanches had been reported tonight from Austria, Switzerland and Italy.

Austria put its death roll at between 95 and 100 so far while the latest provisional figures for Switzerland were 60 dead and 22 missing. Italy had at least 14 dead.

About 100 houses and farms have been destroyed in Switzerland and some 400 head of cattle killed. Twenty persons have been seriously injured.

The death roll on the Italian side of the Alps rose to 14 with about 20 injured.

Police who managed to force a passage through enormous masses of snow to the village of Livigna, near the Italo-Swiss border, reported tonight that a great avalanche killed seven villagers and seriously injured two others.—Reuter.

## Tougher Helmets For Police

Tokyo, Jan. 22.

Helmets made of hard fibre will be issued to all Japanese policemen, the Japanese National Rural Police Headquarters announced today.

The decision was made as a result of the riot case in Nagano City, Central Japan last week in which a policeman was struck over the head and who later died of a brain haemorrhage.

The new police helmet will be light and strong enough to withstand stoning or whacking with sticks, the police authorities said.—Reuter.

## Floating Hotel Capsizes

Tokyo, Jan. 22.

Seven persons were drowned and more than 40 were injured when a 130-ton boat capsized early this morning in Yokohama.

The boat was rebuilt and used as a "floating hostel" to accommodate day labourers. At the time of the accident there were 423 lodgers on board—more than 10 times its capacity.—Reuter.

## Millionaire In Hospital

Manila, Jan. 23.

The Deportation Board has ordered the confinement of Co Pak, Chinese millionaire charged with being a leading Communist, in Bilibid Prison hospital so he can get medical attention.

Co Pak, who is facing possible deportation, was reported to be suffering from diabetes and nephritis.

Co Pak, who was said to be a heavy contributor to the dissidents' cause, is being tried by the Deportation Board. A new twist has entered proceedings because the question of his citizenship has been raised and if he is proven a Filipino citizen he cannot be deported. Co Pak's petition for naturalisation was granted by the Manila Court in June 1950. Under the law, naturalisation papers may be granted two years afterwards.—United Press.

## Long Struggle But No War

Philadelphia, Jan. 22.

Mr Harold Stassen said tonight that he believed the United States faced years or even decades of struggle with Russia but not a third World War.

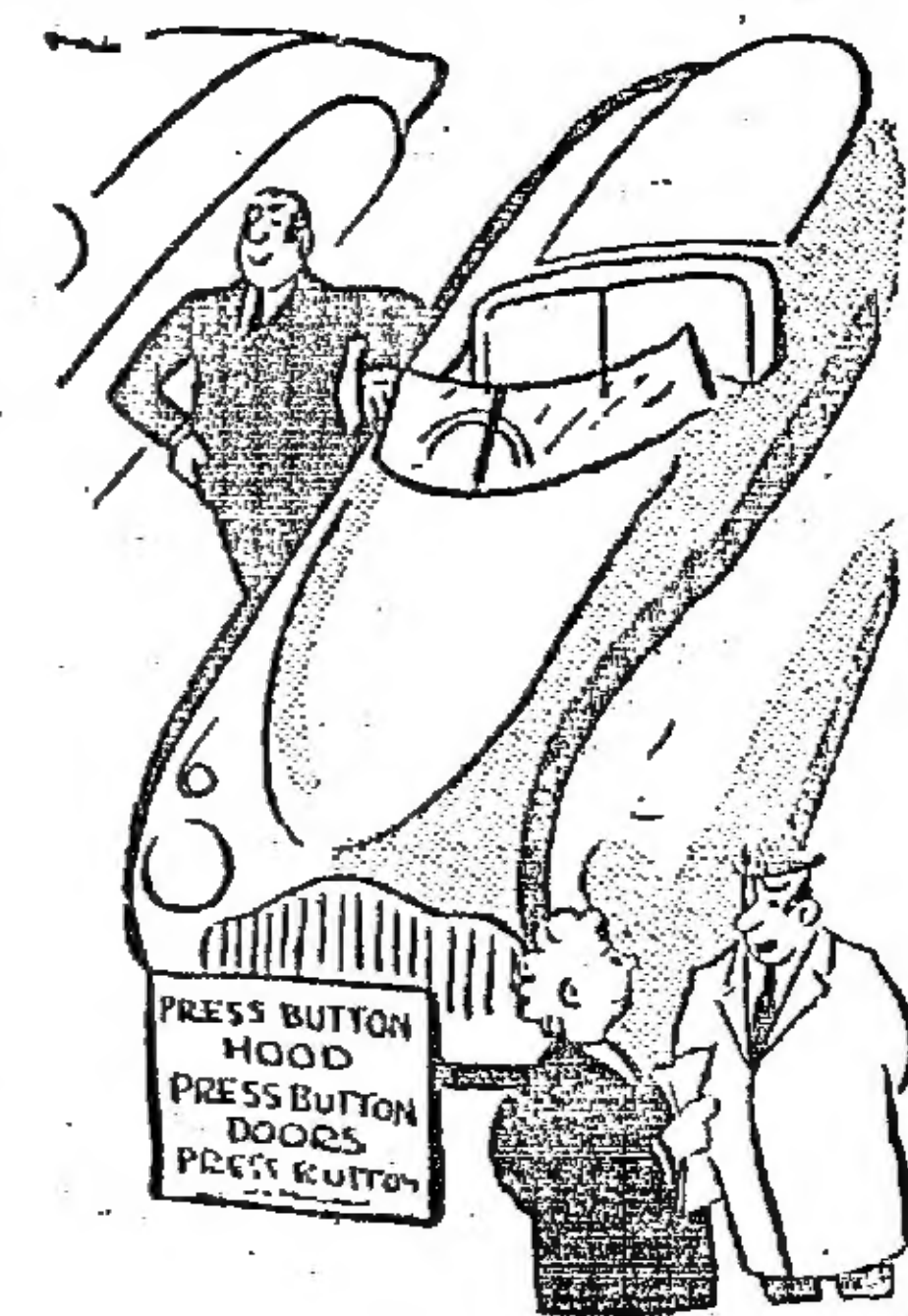
He called for a long-range foreign policy to win victory for "civilisation and freedom" without another global conflict.

There was much trouble and unrest inside the Red Army and the Iron Curtain, Mr Stassen said, and he added: "In my judgment, this trouble would burst forth in genuine counter-revolution if an aggressive world war were initiated by the Communist rulers."—United Press.

## Dutch Airmen In Ulster

Londonderry, Jan. 22.

Firefly fighters of the Royal Netherlands Navy landed at the airfield here today to begin training with the Royal Navy. They had been held up at Leeson-Solent, in Hampshire, over the week-end because of bad weather.—Reuter.



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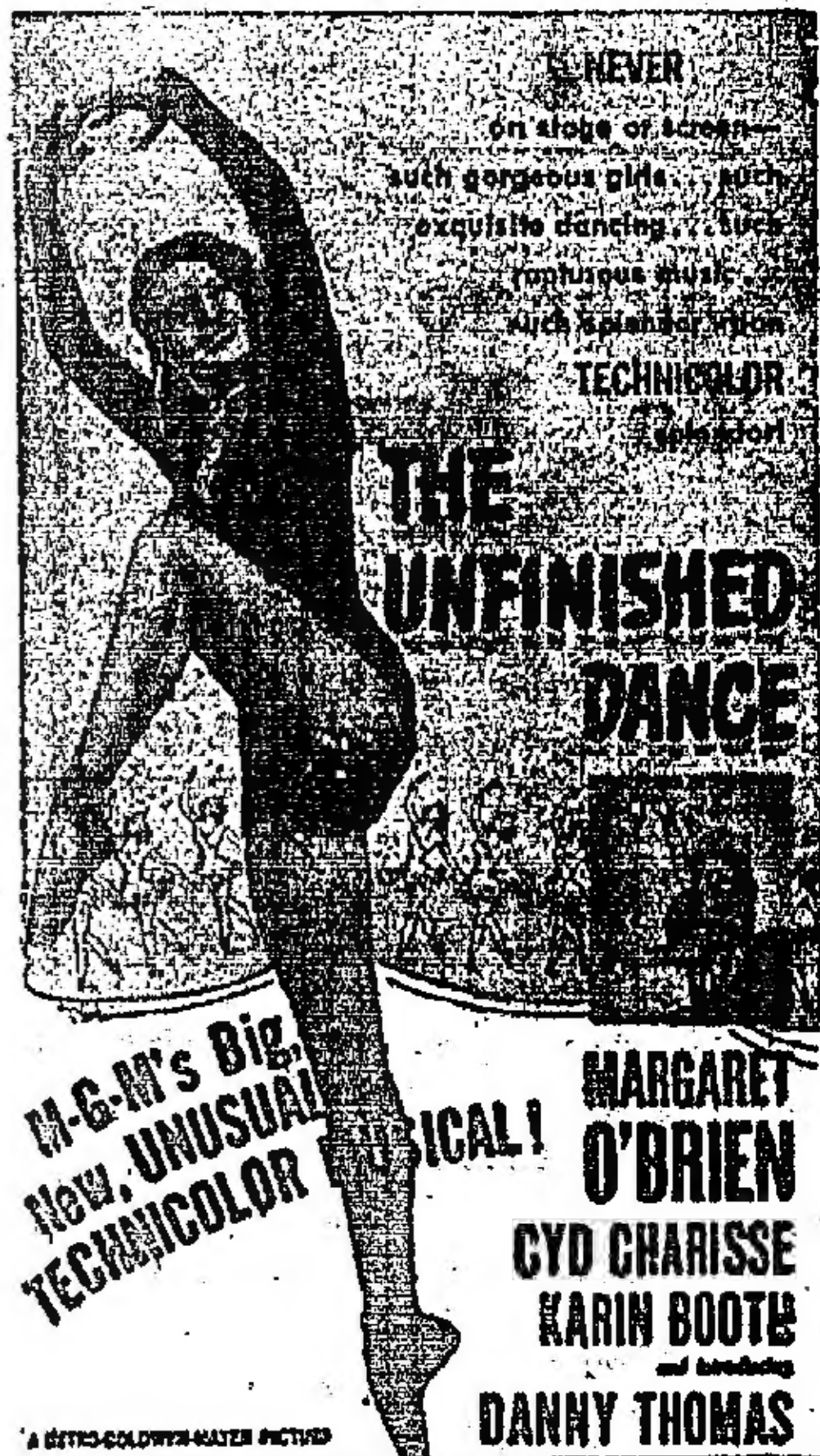
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Colonel H. V. McNally OBE, Provost Marshal of Far East Land Forces, who is spending a week in Hongkong on an inspection tour.—Staff Photographer.



# JAPANESE TREATY PROSPECTS

## Foster Dulles Expects Settlement Within Six Months



Mr J. Barrow, District Commissioner, New Territories, shown signing the visitors' scroll at the formal opening of the first planned town in the New Territories—the Luen Wo market town.—Staff Photographer.

## Final Discussions On Detailed Pact

Washington, Jan. 22.

The Republican adviser to the State Department, Mr John Foster Dulles, left for Tokyo today by plane to discuss with Gen. MacArthur and Japanese officials the drafting of a Japanese treaty.

Just before his departure, Mr Dulles told the United Press independently of his prepared statement that he fully expected a final settlement could be reached within the next six months.

Mr Dulles expects to be away from Washington for about three weeks. When he returns he will proceed with the drafting of a detailed treaty, if the Japanese are in substantial agreement with the American position.

The detailed draft would then be used as a basis for discussion with other Allied nations still technically at war with Japan. Mr Dulles arrived at the airport 50 minutes before the plane took off. He spent his time chatting with reporters, his deputy John Allison and other members of the party.

The Assistant Secretary of Army, Earl Johnson, top defence official in the Dulles mission, arrived only a few minutes before the aircraft took off. Mr Johnson was escorted to the airport by the Army Secretary, Frank Pace, who wished the mission "good luck" in their effort. Also on hand was Joseph Dodge, President of the Bank of Detroit, who is financial consultant to General MacArthur.

Mr Dean Rusk, Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, was at the airport too to wish the mission good fortune.

Other official members of the delegation are: Stanton Babcock, Army specialist on treaty matters, John D. Rockefeller, the third well-known philanthropist and social welfare leader, and Miss Dore Dyles, Mr Dulles' secretary. The party also included the wives of Mr Dulles, Johnson and Rockefeller.

### NO FORCE

Commenting on reports that the United States was trying to "force"—Japan to rearm, Mr Dulles told the United Press, "I

certainly am not going to force anyone to rearm."

He was understood to believe that the talk to Japanese rearmament has gone to a point where people believe that the United States is attaching more urgency to the matter than is the actual case.

Mr Dulles was understood to believe that a small Japanese army and possibly the expansion of the police is all that is necessary during the foreseeable future since American air and sea power will be available to provide the primary defence of the islands.—United Press.

## Compromise Out Of The Question

New York, Jan. 22.

The Herald Tribune said today that if the United Nations fails to declare Communist China aggressors against Korea, "public opinion will not long sustain an organisation which regards so technically the sacrifice of young lives."

In an editorial the paper surveyed the various objections to the American "aggression" resolution—the Indian argument that China was motivated by fear for her own security, in particular.

The paper said: "What these arguments fail to consider is the position of America." It noted that the United States went to Korea at the behest of the United Nations and bore the overwhelming burden of battle, including the Chinese attack, despite assurances that China's interests would be respected.

It said: "Yet if the United Nations are to continue their refusal to name China an aggressor, what are our people to conclude? ... There could be only one conclusion: The battle, in the eyes of the United Nations, is utterly meaningless. Even worse is the inference if the Chinese are not held the aggressor that somehow the United States is. There is room for difference of opinion and compromises among ourselves and with the nations of the world on how China should be dealt with in future. ... On this one matter of seeing the record straight and of calling aggression, there can, however, be no compromise."—United Press.

## Menzies Ordered To Rest

London, Jan. 22.

Mr Robert G. Menzies, the Australian Prime Minister, is to take a complete rest for some days before returning to Australia from London.

He is doing this on the advice of his doctor after a severe attack of influenza. Mr Menzies has been in London for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference.—Reuter.

## Soekarno Visit To Manila

Manila, Jan. 22. President Soekarno and Madame Soekarno are coming here next Saturday on a week's official visit, it was announced today.

The announcement listed 24 people to accompany them. They will leave again for Djakarta, the Indonesian capital, on Feb. 3.—Reuter.

## Kashmir To Come Up This Month

London, Jan. 22.

Sir Mohammed Zafrullah Khan, the Pakistan Foreign Minister, who arrived in London by air from Karachi tonight on his way to New York, expects the United Nations Security Council to take up the problem of Kashmir by the end of this month.

He is going to Lake Success to lead the Pakistan delegation to the forthcoming Security Council discussions on Kashmir.

Asked about Pakistan's attitude towards the latest American resolution on China and Korea, Sir Mohammed said: "We have been studying the situation very intensively."

He added that he had discussed this with the Pakistan Prime Minister, Mr Liaquat Ali Khan. The Pakistan Foreign Minister said that Mr Liaquat Ali Khan was awaiting his

observations on this question from Lake Success.

The matter would then be put before the Pakistan Cabinet for its final decision on its attitude towards the United States resolution, now being discussed at the United Nations.

Sir Mohammed said that it was not a question of a verbal or theoretical acceptance of a conception. It was, however, a question of what would really help to resolve the situation with regard to Korea and China.

He said that one knew the dangers of either course and the objective was to save the world from a great catastrophe, the dimensions of which could not be estimated.

"We will have to consider the matter very carefully, indeed," he added.

Sir Mohammed is expected to call on Mr Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, at the Foreign Office here tomorrow before leaving for Lake Success.—Reuter.

## Motor Rally's Rigours

Paris, Jan. 22:

Some competitors in the Mediterranean - to - the - Cape motor rally have covered well over a third of the distance, with the rigours of the Sahara behind them.

Antoine Choucha, of Egypt, in a Willys Overland machine, Mario Veglia, of Italy, in a jeep, and Roberto Barriago, of Italy, in a Lancia, left Fort Archambault yesterday. They lead the rest of the competitors in the race, already in its 26th day.—Reuter.

## PRIESTS SENTENCED TO LIFE

London, Jan. 22.

Warsaw Radio said today that two priests, described as the heads of a terrorist gang in Poland which murdered Communist Party members and people's militiamen, were sentenced to life-long imprisonment by the Cracow District Military Court.

Their names were given as Piotr Oborski and Zbigniew Gadoski. Three other members of the gang were sentenced to death.

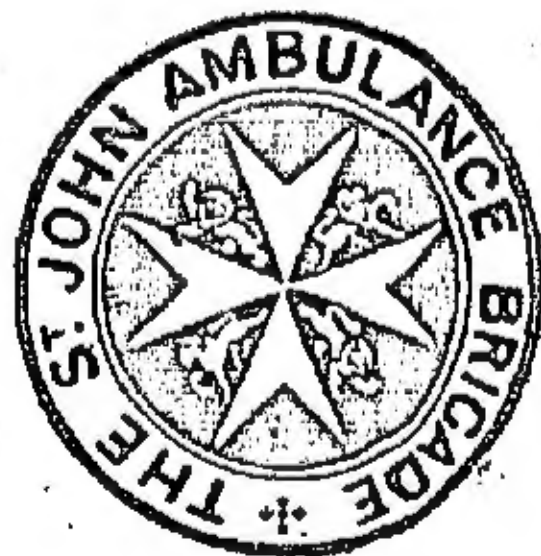
The Radio said a woman named Marja Grabinski—given a life sentence—and her son, Wacław, were members of the gang, but Marja's son, Waldemar, aged 16, disapproved of their activities.

He told his mother that he would report them to the authorities, whereupon the gang chief decided to kill the boy. One priest assured the mother that the murder of her son was justified and she wrote a statement agreeing to it.

Three lads from Folbrom murdered Waldemar with pistols said to have been supplied by the priests, it was alleged.—Reuter.

### INVITATION

Will anyone who is interested in the welfare of poor children kindly offer to accept the honorary appointment of General Secretary, Hongkong Society for the Protection of Children? It is desirable that those offering their services should be permanent residents. Please address offers to the Chairman, H.K.S.P.C., P.O. Box No. 2502.



Have you . . .

reserved your table?

for the St. John Ambulance Association & Brigade ANNUAL BALL which will be held under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, K.C.M.G., and of Lady Grantham, at the Hong Kong Hotel on

26th January, 1951.

Tickets may be obtained, and table reservations made, at the Reception Offices of the Hong Kong Hotel and of the Peninsula Hotel.

BOOK THE DATE NOW!



Manila, Jan. 22

SOLE AGENTS: **NAN KANG CO** UNION BLDG.







## FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

BULLISH  
TREND IN  
COTTON

New York, Jan. 22. Bulls in the cotton market continued to have things pretty much their own way. Prices pushed ahead for the fourth consecutive session, lifting to seasonal highs. Nearby March reached 44.64 cents, the highest in the 80 years' history of the exchange. A mid-afternoon wave of realising caused a setback, but the market rallied and closed on a note of steadiness.

The market opened up 12 to 3 points, and closed up 3 to 57 points net.

Prices closed today as follows:

Spot	45.58 nominal
March (1951)	44.50
May	44.10
July	43.87
October	41.59-41.60
December	41.60-41.18
March (1952)	41.08
May	41.00
July	40.70

## NEW ORLEANS MARKET

Closing rate Jan. 22

Spot	44.50
March (1951)	44.40-44.42
May	43.99
July	43.6
October	41.48
December	41.02-41.04
March (1952)	40.95
May	40.75
July	40.50 bid

Grain Price  
In Chicago

Chicago, Jan. 22.

Prices of grain futures closed here today as follows:

Wheat—price per bushel.

Spot	2.44½
December	2.45½-¼
March	2.46½
May	2.41½-2.42
July	2.42½-¾

Corn

Spot	1.77½
December	1.78½-¾
March	1.79½-¾
May	1.79½-1.80
July	1.79½-¾

Rye

December	-
May	-

Oats

December	97½ bid
March	97½

New York Flour—per 200 lb. sack.

Spot	13.00
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LONDON TIN  
MARKET

London, Jan. 22. The tin market was fairly steady this morning. Turnover was 150 tons, including 50 tons for cash.

Prices closed today at the end of the official morning session as follows:

Spot tin, buyers	1,235
Spot tin, sellers	1,240
Business done at	1,235-1,240
Three-months tin, buyers	1,200
Three-months tin, sellers	1,205
Business done at	1,200-1,195
Settlement	1,235

New York Rubber  
Steadier

New York, Jan. 22. Rubber futures developed a steadier undertone. Sales on the Commodity Exchange Incorporated amounted to 2 contracts, and prices closed 350 to 400 points higher.

Prices closed today as follows:

Spot	72½
March	69.50 nominal
May	65.00 nominal
July	60.00 nominal

Pakistan Signs  
Trade Pact

Madrid, Jan. 22. Spain and Pakistan signed here today their first trade agreement. Pakistan will send Spain cotton, cotton-seed and hides in return for Spanish textiles, machinery and chemical products.

The agreement is valid for one year beginning today.—Reuters.

Communist China's  
Favourable Trade  
Balance

San Francisco, Jan. 22.

In 10 months of trading from January to October, 1950, Communist China recorded a favourable export balance of 32.23 percent of total imports, Peking Radio reported tonight.

In both the export and import fields State trading establishments did more business than privately-operated organisations. The figures

were:

Export:—State trading bodies 54.38 percent; Private concerns 45.02 percent.

Import:—State trading bodies 69.94 percent; Private concerns 30.06 percent.

China's chief exports were: soya beans, tung oil, hog bristles, peanuts, eggs, tea, mineral ores. Her chief imported goods were: instants and raw materials for industrial production, the Radio said.

It added that the old method of complicated Customs inspection had been simplified. Up to the end of 1950, according to preliminary statistics, tariff receipts were 144.47 percent of the year's estimated quota.

## CUSTOMS CHANGED

The broadcast claimed that there had also been great achievements in the prohibition of smuggling.

It further said, "There have been big reforms in the organisation of Custom houses. The number of these has been reduced from 173 to 70 and the system of foreign commissioners and Inspector-General of Customs has been done away with."

"For the first time in the past 100 years, the Chinese people have managed all Custom houses throughout China by themselves and have put into force sovereign Customs rights."—Reuters.

Meeting Of  
Empire's  
Bank Chiefs

London, Jan. 22.

Governors of various reserve banks in the British Commonwealth will, it was learned today, meet in Sydney shortly for a conference—one of the very few conferences in the history of leading central banks of the Sterling area.

G. F. Cobbold, Governor of the Bank of England, left by plane today for Sydney where he will visit the Reserve Bank of Australia and subsequently the Reserve Bank of New Zealand. After attending the conference of his fellow Governors in the Commonwealth he will return via the United States.

The meeting of Governors grows out of Australian celebrations of Australia's first 50 years of Federation.—United Press.

## Offers Of Copra

New York, Jan. 22.

Sellers offered copra for near-by shipment at \$255 per short ton, C.I.F. the Pacific Coast. There were no takers. In coconut oil, all positions were offered at 19-1/2 cents a pound, F.O.B. mills, up a quarter cent.—United Press.

## New York Metals

New York, Jan. 22.

Prices in the metal market here closed unchanged today with the following expectations:

Tin, Grade A (99.80 per cent or higher) New York, per lb. 175.50.—United Press.

FRANCE HAS MUCH TO DO  
TO BUILD UP DEFENCES

AS General Eisenhower By IAN BEVAN

drove up towards the Arc de Triomphe and his new Paris H.Q. no doubt he noticed several changes.

The Corinthian columns on the Place de la Concorde, clipped by tank shells the last time he was through the city in 1945, have been repaired.

Little formal municipal pots of colourless plants replace the jam jars of daisies where the 12 Resistance strikers were shot down on the rue de Rivoli.

Through the windows of the cafes, General Eisenhower was able to glimpse the lunchers knitting into steaks of a juiciness unknown in those revolutionary days.

And although the bars down the street from Europe's Defence H.Q. still flourish, the spivs have thinned out dramatically.

I do not think, though, that he will need to linger long before he discovers that, among all the flux, one thing has hardly changed at all—the state of France's defences.

Mostly, the General will find himself coming in where he went out.

## She Is Weak

In terms of modern war France is weak. With a population of 40,000,000 she has a weaker army and air force than Switzerland (population 4,500,000) or Sweden (pop. 6,750,000) and a less numerous defence force than Spain.

Before the 1939 war France kept about 30 divisions under arms. Now the French have eight divisions (five at home, three in Germany-Austria)—a total of about 310,000 men.

Add 52,000 gendarmes (equipped with lorries, rifles and bicycles) who will be called on to defend the rear and the total French land might now available comes to 30,000 men fewer than the present British Army.

All the French divisions are poorly equipped, mostly with weapons that were old six years ago—for instance, Sherman tanks for their only two armoured divisions.

## No Territorials

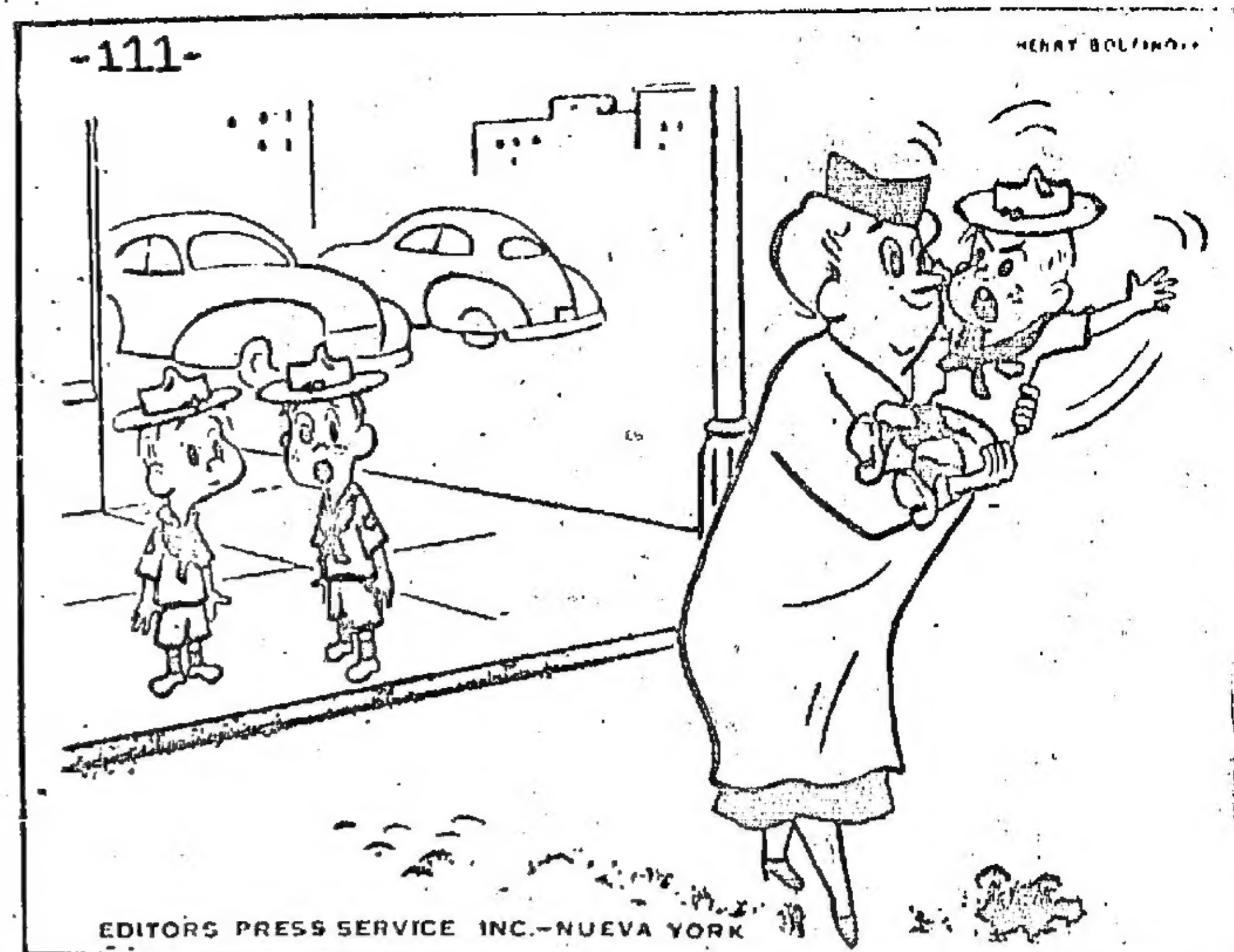
France has not one Territorial soldier, not one Home Guard.

There is not a single volunteer air raid warden. No air cadets are being trained. There is not an auxiliary fireman in the country, not a special constable, not a nursing reserve, not a woman auxiliary.

But do not blame the French man and woman in the street. They can hardly volunteer for services that do not exist.

And never at any moment has there been any Government appeal for such volunteers.

There is not even a French Chief of General Staff (the man responsible for general mobilisa-



"Looks like there's something wrong with Archie's approach."

tion)—though one is promised soon.

France's total air strength in up-to-date planes is about 150 jet fighters—80 of them Vampires given by Britain, plus a few Vampires made in France under licence and some all-French Ouragans.

The rest of France's 3,200 odd aircraft are weary old propeller machines that Britain and the U.S. have written off as outmoded (and for some of which it is even difficult to get spare parts nowadays)—like Halifaxes, Wellingtons, King Cobras, Mark IX Spitfires, Glenn Martins and Mitchells.

## Air Deaths

A sad and revealing little paragraph in the other day's papers reported that on France's major war front in Indo-China some troops were killed in an air crash.

The planes in which they were travelling? German Junkers 52's—machines which were hoary before 1939.

There is not a rocket weapon, not a guided missile, in the country.

Only a few of France's 66,000 airmen are trained in radar. In France military service is 18 months, increased from 12 months last year.

With this 18 months and the best of France's N.C.O.s in Indo-China it is virtually impossible to train new senior N.C.O.s like company sergeant-majors, flight-sergeants and chief petty officers.

Pretty well the only new N.C.O.s France is getting are

juniors with limited knowledge, trained by other outgoing juniors.

Eight thousand miles from home, in Indo-China, France is grappling with a "Far Eastern Greece" of terrific strain.

This year alone the Indo-China war will cost £200,000,000—almost a quarter of the entire French military budget.

## Held Down

The Communist rebels hold down a French expeditionary force of 166,000 men, a third of the whole French Air Force, a 120,000-strong pro-French native army, and the best of what is left of France's warships and transports. And far behind the lines there is constant arson, sabotage, riot, bomb-throwing, political murder.

The drain in men makes the Malaya campaign look like a skirmish. Since 1946 no fewer than 20,000 French soldiers from France—excluding all Colonial troops—have been killed, died, disappeared, or been "irrevocably" wounded.

This is not counting likely wounded or prisoners. Now, including French coloured troops, losses in dead and disappeared are 750 a month.

Officer recruiting is falling off seriously. Time-expired regular soldiers are not renewing their Service engagements, for pay is small, married quarters do not exist, nor do state-paid passages for wives and children to garrisons abroad.

General Eisenhower will no doubt soon find out too that France is far from gearing its engineering for big defence production. Mass production lines for defence are extremely rare.

The French are not even starting to produce an equivalent of the British Centurion tank, though a light, 13-ton "tank" is promised for next July's Bastille Day parade and other vehicles like jeeps are coming up.

Many of the nationalised arms factories are turning out long strings of prototypes which never get into production. Moreover French production costs are so high the French prefer to buy from America and Britain.

## Arms Aid

The French Government announces it will raise France's European Army to ten divisions by the end of this year (i.e. five new divisions), to 15 divisions by the end of 1952 and to 20 divisions by the end of 1953.

But senior Allied officers say General Eisenhower will probably find France cannot raise more than ten divisions by the end of 1952. What is certain is that almost all the equipment and arms for these extra divisions must come from abroad.

Yet, for all this, there are tremendous reserves of genius, sense and spirit among the French people. They need re-kindling—that is the answer.

## STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: South  
North-South game.

N.  
♠ Q 8 7 4 2  
♥ A 9 7 2  
♦ 5 4

W. E.  
♠ K 6 5    ♠ A J 10 8  
♥ K Q 9 8 4    ♥ J  
♦ 10    ♦ A 6 5 3  
♣ J 9 8 2    ♣ A Q 10 8

S.  
♠ A 10 7 6 5 3  
♥ K Q 8 4  
♦ K 7 8

One team lost points deservedly on this hand in the 1948 European Championships. In Room 1 North pushed a good principle too far with a response of One Spade to South's One Heart. East made a trap pass. South bid Two Hearts and North squirmed back to Two Spades, which East doubled. South persisted with Three Hearts doubled by West for a penalty of 800.

In Room 2 North passed, and South's One Heart was doubled by East. West made a penalty pass, and North now bid One Spade, doubled by East. South found a place of refuge in Two Diamonds, which was also doubled. East won the opening lead of ♠ 2 with ♠ A and played ♠ A followed by ♠ 3, but South escaped with a loss of 200 points only.

London Express Service.



# BRITAIN'S NEW CHINA POLICY

## Last-Minute Instructions To Sir Gladwyn Jebb In U.N. Stiffening Up Prior To Latest Peking Offer

London, Jan. 22.

The Cabinet today drafted a new policy on China. The new policy was believed to modify British opposition to naming Communist China an aggressor.

The Cabinet met in an atmosphere of urgency to draw up last-minute instructions for Sir Gladwyn Jebb, the chief British United Nations delegate.

Informed sources said Britain's new position was:—

(1) Willingness to denounce Red China for actions in Korea provided the term "aggressor" would be "toned down."

(2) Opposition to any punitive action against the Peking regime; especially no bombing of Manchuria, and no economic blockade of the China coast.

(3) Continued behind-scenes efforts at Lake Success, Washington and through the Indian ambassador in Peking to obtain some kind of conference with the Chinese Reds.

The British cabinet also was confronted with a new Soviet note on German rearmament. The note stirred speculation that Russia was getting ready to denounce its treaties of friendship and alliance with both Britain and France.

Undeterred by Russian threats against the rearmament of Western Germany, General Dwight Eisenhower was reported ready to tell Congress Western Europe has the will to resist Red aggression. General Eisenhower will insist however that more American troops are needed in

Europe immediately to strengthen European confidence.

The Supreme Commander of the Atlantic pact army was scheduled to confer with German leaders on Monday night at Frankfurt.

Meanwhile United States Admiral Robert Carney, Commander of United States naval forces in the Eastern Atlantic, arrived at Malta to open a strategy conference with the British Middle East chiefs of staff on Tuesday.

Mr Winston Churchill conferred in Paris with Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery on the reopening of Parliament on Wednesday. Mr Churchill is expected to denounce the Labour Government for its slowness in pushing defence preparations.—United Press.

## STANLEY SENTENCED IN ABSENCE

Paris, Jan. 22.

Sidney Stanley, the key witness in the Lynskey Tribunal, was today sentenced in his absence to three years' imprisonment for making "threats of death" against a Paris business man.

Stanley was recently expelled from France.

A warrant was issued today for his arrest if he should return. Counsel for Mr Charles Silverstein, against whom Stanley was accused of issuing the threats, said that after Stanley's flight from Britain to France in 1949, he was hospitably lodged by the Silverstein family for six weeks.

They took him to the theatre and the races, he went freely to the Israeli Legation, nevertheless Stanley later accused Mr Silverstein of having kidnapped him.

Stanley then went to Israel, from where he wrote a letter to Mr Silverstein threatening his life.

The Court also fined Stanley 50,000 francs.—Reuter.

## Czech Note Alleges U.S. Infringements

Prague, Jan. 22.

The Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry today accused American aircraft of "intentionally violating Czechoslovakia's air territory to carry on espionage and to support subversive elements".

The accusation was made in a note delivered to the American Embassy here.

The note said that there could be no question that the alleged violations were accidents.

The note said that United States military aircraft had violated Czechoslovak air territory 58 times between October, 1950, and January 15, 1951.

This great number excluded the possibility of mistakes, the note added.—Reuter.

## French Supreme Commander

Paris, Jan. 22.

General Alphonse Juin, the Commander-in-Chief of the French Forces in North Africa, will be appointed to head all French ground, air and naval forces in the very near future, a spokesman of the French Prime Minister's Office stated today.

General Juin, who is also Resident-General of Morocco, is 62. His official title will be Inspector-General of the Armed Forces. He will also be Chairman of the Committee of Chiefs of Staff of the three Service branches.—Reuter.

## Peking's New Offer For Korea Peace

(Continued from Page 1)

cepted Sir Benegal's postponement proposal 27-23 with six abstentions.

Insisting that the Committee push ahead with the American proposal to denounce Mao Tse-tung's regime as an aggressor and to study punitive measures, Mr Austin said, "The Peking message does not mean much except this, so far as one can understand the English language, it is not new, it is not a proposition, it is not addressed to the United Nations, it is not much more than a postal card would be."

### LIFTS A BARRIER

However, despite strong support for the initial American scepticism from Latin American delegates and Mr Carlos Romulo of the Philippines, there were more members who saw enough possibilities in the startling Peking switch to warrant some study. Among them were Britain and all other Commonwealth countries except Australia, which abstained, France, most of the Asian-Arab bloc and the Soviet bloc.

The Peking offer as transmitted through the Indians apparently removed one of the main barriers that blocked earlier UN cease-fire efforts. For the first time Peking agreed to a cease-fire first, though only after the convening of a Far East parley and only for a limited time.

One of the obstacles was the Peking demand that the legitimate status of the Communists must be ensured. This seemed, however, to mark some degree of backing down from last week's demand that Peking must be formally admitted to the United Nations before the convening of the seven-nation parley.

Another key stumbling bloc still remaining was the word-

ing of the demand that Formosa's future be taken up at the parley. The Peking note to India prejudged the Formosa talks, that they be pursued "in order to reach agreement upon the withdrawal of the United States armed forces from Taiwan."

On the other side of the ledger, Peking agreed to assume the responsibility for advising the Chinese "volunteers" to leave Korea if the withdrawal of foreign troops was agreed to "and is being put into practice."—United Press.

### COMES CLOSER

Sir Gladwyn Jebb of Britain said the new message "comes closer to saying yes than any yet received from Peking", but time must be allowed for United Nations member governments to consider it.

Mr Carlos Romulo opposed any approach to Peking smacking of "appeasement", refused to recognise the new message from the Chinese Communists as a reply to the United Nations. He said the Indian Ambassador in Peking should advise the Chinese Communist government to address its reply formally to the United Nations.

The immediate reaction by United Nations observers was one of scepticism. Peking appeared to have removed one of the barriers that blocked previous cease-fire efforts as it had previously demanded talks before a cease-fire. However, a second key barrier remained—the demand for admission to the United Nations.

Despite scepticism here, there was strong support in the Committee for a 48-hour delay to permit delegations to communicate with their home governments, and the Committee adjourned until Wednesday at 3 p.m.—United Press.



British film actresses Barbara Murray and Susan Shaw had the time of their lives at a Kensington, London, club trying on the gowns they were to wear at the premiere of their new film. Here they are having their own private premiere in the club.

## 44 Aussies Get Well Earned Rest

Kure, Jan. 22.

Forty-four men of the 3rd Battalion—the first substantial draft of Australians to be relieved from frontline duty—arrived at this Southern Japanese base by air late tonight.

Those who have long-leave credits expect to be flown to Australia to take a rest at home.

The troops, dirty and long-haired, celebrated tonight in the Headquarters canteen after they had been issued with blankets and quartered in comfortable steam-heated huts.

Most of the troops had only one bath in the last 11 weeks. That was a week ago when they commandeered a Korean communal bath-house.

They learned only yesterday that they were going to Japan and spent last night in the snow alongside a Korean airfield. The troops said that winter clothing was so scarce in the Australian battalion that they had to leave their warm clothes with their platoons.

They said that the battalion was acutely short of the proper clothing for the freezing conditions of the Korean winter and many men suffered from trench feet and frostbite.—Reuter.

## Senator's Plan

Washington, Jan. 22.

Republican Senator Hugh Butler of Nebraska told the Senate today that the United States should plan immediately to make full use of the Chinese Nationalists, Japanese and Western German manpower. He also said the United States should try to stir up dissatisfaction among peoples behind the Iron Curtain.—United Press.

## Distribution Of Raw Materials

London, Jan. 22.

The North Atlantic Pact deputies today discussed the distribution of raw materials for their production programme, according to a usually reliable source.

The discussions covered the recent proposal of Britain, France and the United States for a series of international commodity groups to control the distribution of raw materials.

The deputies also discussed a Canadian proposal, made at last month's meeting of the Pact's Foreign Ministers in Brussels, that the three Ministerial committees of the Atlantic Pact be merged into one body.—Reuter.

## Burma Short Of Newsprint

Rangoon, Jan. 22.

Editors of Burmese newspapers—now very short of newsprint—decided here today to ask their Government for dollars from the American Economic Co-operation Administration to enable them to import supplies from Canada.

Burma depends entirely on foreign supplies to meet her requirements of 3,000 tons of newsprint a year.—Reuter.

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